



GOVERNOR OF MISSOURI

JEFFERSON CITY
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JEREMIAH W. (JAY) NIXON
GOVERNOR

P.O. Box 720
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January 23, 2013

The Honorable Pat Quinn
Governor of Illinois
207 State House
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Governor Quinn:

This past weekend, America lost one of its true living treasures with the passing of baseball immortal Stan Musial. A true master at the craft of hitting, Stan transcended baseball through his poise, dedication and generosity during his entire 92 years. As one of the stars for the St. Louis Cardinals, he helped transform much of the Midwest – and many across the country – into Redbird fans.

It is safe to say that Cardinal Nation includes much of your great State of Illinois – and while it's not a formal boundary, the Line of Demarcation must run somewhere between Bloomington and Springfield. Perhaps not coincidentally, Stan batted .379 in 87 games for the 1941 Springfield Cardinals in your state's capital, before joining the big leagues for good that year.

How can we in Missouri and Illinois memorialize a man so beloved by baseball fans that he was voted as "favorite player" in a poll of Cubs fans one year ... a man whose lifetime as a philanthropist and goodwill ambassador was recognized with the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2011 ... a Hall of Famer deemed "baseball's perfect warrior, baseball's perfect knight" by Commissioner Frick?

I propose that we honor Stan Musial by attaching his name to the new Mississippi River bridge that is being built to connect our two great states at St. Louis. The Stan Musial Memorial Bridge would do honor to the citizens of both Missouri and Illinois, demonstrating that his greatness both on and off the field was something to be admired and emulated.

Governor, I will make every effort so that Missouri and Illinois come to a consensus under the terms of the 2008 Bi-State Agreement on naming this new bridge in honor of Stan Musial, and I ask that you undertake these efforts as well. I hope that we find concord, and success, on this endeavor to honor a truly great American in this fashion.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon, written in a cursive style.

Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon
Governor